United Nations A/56/23 (Part II)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 July 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Item 18 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on its work during 2001**

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* A/56/150.

** The present document contains chapters III-XII of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. The general introductory chapter will be issued under the symbol A/56/23 (Part I). The recommendations of the Special Committee to the General Assembly will be issued under the symbol A/56/23 (Part III). The complete report will be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/56/23).

01-46074 (E) 130801

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Chapter III
Dissemination of information on decolonization

1. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the dissemination of information on decolonization as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 3rd meeting, on 18 June 2001.

3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 55/145 of 8 December 2000 on the dissemination of information on decolonization, and resolutions 55/146 and 55/147 of the same date on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

4. The Special Committee held consultations with representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat at its 3rd meeting, on 18 June (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.3).

5. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Special Committee drew attention to the report of the Department of Public Information on the dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/2001/19) and a draft resolution on the item prepared by the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2001/L.4).

6. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.4 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/20).

7. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/20 appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/56/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. G).

Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories

8. The Special Committee observed the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories during its Caribbean Regional Seminar, held at Havana, Cuba, from 23 to 25 May 2001 (for details, see A/56/23 (Part I) chap. II, annex, paras. 15-18 and appendices II-IV).

Chapter IV
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories

9. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of sending visiting missions to Territories as appropriate. The Special Committee also decided that the item should be considered at its plenary meetings and, as appropriate, in connection with its examination of specific Territories.

10. The Special Committee considered the item at its 3rd and 8th meetings, on 18 and 29 June 2001.

11. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, the pertinent provisions of resolution 55/147 of 8 December 2000 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and resolutions 55/143 and 55/144 A and B of the same date relating to specific Territories. The Special Committee also considered decision 55/410 of 14 November 2000 relating to the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration.

12. In addition to the consideration of the item, the Special Committee considered the specific Territories referred to it, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 55/145, 55/146 and 55/147, as well as previous decisions of the Special Committee relating to the question.

13. At its 3rd meeting, on 18 June 2001, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2001/L.6).

14. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to continue consideration of the item at a later meeting of the Committee (See A/AC.109/2001/SR.3).

15. At the 8th meeting, on 29 June, the representative of Papua New Guinea introduced an oral amendment to the draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.6 by which the words "to coincide with the proposed plebiscite to be conducted by the Guam Electoral Commission on or about 7 September 2002" would be added to the fifth operative paragraph.

16. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.6, as orally amended, without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/26).

17. By adopting at its 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001, a consolidated resolution on 11 small Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.109/2001/23) and, at the same meeting, a resolution on Tokelau (A/AC.109/2001/24), the Special Committee endorsed a number of conclusions and recommendations concerning the sending of visiting missions to Territories, as reflected in its recommendations to the General Assembly in chapters X and XI (see also A/56/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. E relating to Tokelau and sect. F relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands).

18. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/26, adopted by the Special Committee at its 8th meeting, on 29 June 2001, is reproduced below:

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,

Recalling the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,

Conscious that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and in other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand, as an administering Power, in the work of the Special Committee, and that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, a visiting mission was dispatched to Tokelau in July 1994,[1]

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory of Guam, noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific Regional Seminar that a visiting mission be sent to Guam, and taking note of resolution No. 464 (LS), adopted by the twenty-third Guam legislature on 19 July 1996, in which it requested the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to that Territory,

Welcoming the commencement of informal dialogue between the Special Committee and some administering Powers,

1. *Stresses* the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to those Territories;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by receiving United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to consider new approaches in the work of the Special Committee, and urges them to cooperate with the Special Committee in its efforts;

4. *Requests* its Chairman to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned and to report thereon to the Special Committee as appropriate;

5. *Also requests* its Chairman to enter into consultations with the administering Power of Guam with a view to facilitating the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to that Territory, to coincide with the proposed plebiscite to be conducted by the Guam Electoral Commission on or about 7 September 2002.

Chapter V
Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

19. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

20. The Special Committee considered the item at its 10th meeting, on 3 July 2001.

21. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolution 55/138 of 8 December 2000 on economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant provisions of resolution 55/146 on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and resolution 55/147 on the implementation of the Declaration. Additionally, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the last preambular paragraph of resolution A/AC.109/2001/29, adopted on 3 July 2001.

22. In 1994, the Special Committee, in keeping with its consistent goal of limiting documentation and streamlining its report to the General Assembly, recommended to the Assembly that, in preparing the general working papers on the Territories, the Secretariat should, where applicable, incorporate under separate headings those sections relating to economic and other activities which affect the interests of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and those on military activities and arrangements in those Territories. By adopting resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, the Assembly approved, inter alia, that recommendation.

23. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat containing, inter alia, information on economic conditions, with particular reference to foreign economic activities, in the following Territories: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2001/3-4, 6-10, 13, 15 and 17).

24. At the 10th meeting, on 3 July 2001, the Chairman drew attention to the various working papers prepared by the Secretariat which contained references to economic and other activities which affected the interests of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2001/L.9).

25. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.9 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/29).

26. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/29, adopted by the Special Committee at its 10th meeting, on 3 July 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/56/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. B).

Chapter VI
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration

27. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

28. The Special Committee considered the item at its 10th meeting, on 3 July 2001.

29. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in

particular, resolution 55/147, in paragraph 12 of which the Assembly called upon the administering Powers concerned to eliminate the remaining military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly and also called upon the administering Powers to promote alternative sources of livelihood for the peoples of the Territories concerned. The Special Committee also took into account Assembly decision 55/436 of 8 December 2000, in paragraph 8 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

30. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat containing, inter alia, information on military activities and arrangements in Bermuda, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2001/3-4 and 9).

31. At the 10th meeting, on 3 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft decision on the item (A/AC.109/2001/L.10).

32. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft decision A/AC.109/2001/L.10 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/30).

33. The text of decision A/AC.109/2001/30, adopted by the Special Committee at its 10th meeting, on 3 July 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/56/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. I).

Chapter VII
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

34. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

35. The Special Committee considered the item at its 9th meeting, on 2 July 2001.

36. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/139 of 8 December 2000 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, in paragraph 20 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session. The Special Committee also took into account all other resolutions adopted by the Assembly on the subject, including resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (see A/46/634/Rev.1) and resolution 55/146 declaring the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the Second Decade containing the updated plan of action for the Second Decade (A/56/61, annex).

37. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the fourth preambular paragraph of resolution A/AC.109/2001/27, adopted on 2 July 2001.

38. At the 9th meeting, on 2 July 2001, the Chairman drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/56/65) and to the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration (E/2001/57), as well as to the draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2001/L.11).

39. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Committee at the outset of its 9th meeting, Carlyle Corbin made a statement on behalf of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.9).

40. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee and the representative of Fiji made statements (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.9).

41. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.11 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/27).

42. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/27, adopted by the Special Committee at its 9th meeting, on 2 July 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. C).

Chapter VIII
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

43. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

44. The Special Committee considered the item at its 3rd meeting, on 18 June 2001.

45. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the resolutions of the General Assembly concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and related questions, in particular resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, by which the Assembly decided, inter alia, to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and to transfer certain of its functions to the Special Committee, and resolution 55/137 of 8 December 2000, in paragraph 5 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session. Furthermore, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolutions 55/147 of 8 December 2000, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and 55/146 of the same date, relating to the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

46. At the 3rd meeting, on 18 June 2001, the Acting Chairman drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/56/67), which reflected the dates of transmission of information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations by the administering Powers in regard to Territories under their respective administration, as well as to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2001/L.5).

47. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.5 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/21).

48. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/21, adopted by the Special Committee at its 3rd meeting, on 18 June 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/56/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. A).

Chapter IX
Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara

49. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara as separate items and to consider them at its plenary meetings.

50. In its consideration of the items, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly resolutions 55/145 and 55/147 of 8 December 2000 and decision 55/427 of the same date, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

51. France participated in the work of the Special Committee in relation to New Caledonia.

A. Gibraltar

52. The Special Committee considered the question of Gibraltar at its 4th and 8th meetings, on 19 and 29 June 2001.

53. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (see A/AC.109/2001/12).

54. At the 4th meeting, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Spain had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the question. The Special Committee decided to accede to the request.

55. At the same meeting, with the consent of the Special Committee, Peter Caruana, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.4).

56. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representative of Grenada and the Acting Chairman, in his capacity as representative of Côte d'Ivoire (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.4).

57. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the outset of the meeting, a statement was made by Joseph Bossano, Leader of the Opposition in Gibraltar (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.4).

58. At the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.4).

59. At same meeting, following a statement by the representative of Papua New Guinea, the Special Committee decided to defer consideration of the question to a later meeting of the Committee (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.4).

60. At the 8th meeting, on 29 June, statements were made by the representatives of Papua New Guinea, Grenada and Spain (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.4).

61. On the proposal of the Acting Chairman, the Committee decided to continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fifty-sixth session and, in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Fourth Committee, to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

B. New Caledonia

62. The Special Committee considered the question of New Caledonia at its 7th, 9th and 10th meetings, on 29 June and 2 and 3 July 2001.

63. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2001/14).

64. At the 7th meeting, on 29 June, following a statement by the Acting Chairman in which he drew attention to a working paper and to the text of a draft resolution contained in document A/AC.109/2001/L.14, the Committee decided to continue consideration of the item at a later stage (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.7).

65. At the 9th meeting, on 2 July 2001, following a statement by the Acting Chairman, the Committee decided to continue consideration of the item at its next meeting (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.9).

66. At the 10th meeting, on 3 July, in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 7th meeting, a statement was made by Roch Wamytan, on behalf of the Front de libération nationale Kanak socialiste (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.10).

67. At the same meeting, the representative of Papua New Guinea introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.14 (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.10).

68. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.14, without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/28).

69. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/28, adopted by the Special Committee at its 10th meeting, on 3 July 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. D).

C. Western Sahara

70. The Special Committee considered the question of Western Sahara at its 6th meeting, on 21 June 2001.

71. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2001/12).

72. At its 6th meeting, on 21 June 2001, in accordance with a decision taken at its 3rd meeting, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ahmed Boukhari of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente

POLISARIO), who made a statement at the same meeting (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.6).

73. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba and Papua New Guinea (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.6).

74. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Acting Chairman, the Special Committee decided, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fifty-sixth session and in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Fourth Committee, to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

Chapter X
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands

75. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands and to consider them at its plenary meetings.

76. In its consideration of the items, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/147 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. In paragraph 8 (c) of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Special Committee, inter alia, to continue to pay special attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination. The Special Committee also took into account relevant resolutions and decisions on the Territories adopted by the Assembly.

77. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, the administering Powers concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration.[2] However, as a result of informal consultations with the Special Committee held during its substantive session in 2001, both administering Powers reaffirmed their desire to continue an informal dialogue with the Special Committee on the questions.

78. The Special Committee considered the 11 Territories at its 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001.

79. During its consideration of the items, the Special Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territories (A/AC.109/2001/2-4, 6-9, 13, 15-17).

80. At the 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution relating to the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2001/L.13).

81. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to waive the 24-hour rule under rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and consider the draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.13.

82. At the same meeting, with the Special Committee's consent, a statement was made by Leland Bettis, on behalf of the Guam Commission on Decolonization (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.7).

83. At the same meeting, following statements made by the representatives of Papua New Guinea and the Syrian Arab Republic and by the Acting Chairman, in his capacity as representative of Côte d'Ivoire (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.7), the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.13 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/23).

84. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/23, adopted by the Special Committee at its 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/56/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. F).

Chapter XI
Tokelau

85. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of Tokelau as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

86. The Special Committee considered the item at its 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001.

87. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (see A/AC.109/2001/5).

88. At the 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the representative of Papua New Guinea made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.12 on the question of Tokelau.

89. At the same meeting, with the consent of the Special Committee, the Ulu o Tokelau and the Administrator of Tokelau made statements (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.7).

90. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.12 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/24).

91. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.7).

92. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/24, adopted by the Special Committee at its 7th meeting, on 28 June 2001, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. E).

Chapter XII
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

93. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 21 February and 18 June 2001, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman and the Acting Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

94. The Special Committee considered the item at its 8th meeting, on 29 June 2001.

95. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly decision 55/411 of 20 November 2000, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

96. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2001/11).

97. At the 8th meeting, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Panama, Paraguay (on behalf of the States members of the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) as well as Bolivia and Chile) and Uruguay had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item. The Special Committee decided to accede to the requests.

98. At the same meeting, the representative of Indonesia made a statement (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.8).

99. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Committee at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000, statements were made by Etchebarne Bullrich, the Honourable Richard Cockwell and the Honourable John Birmingham of the Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands, as well as by Alejandro Vernet, Alejandro Betts and Ricardo Ancell (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.8).

100. At the same meeting, the representative of Chile introduced, also on behalf of Bolivia, Cuba and Venezuela, a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2001/L.8).

101. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina made a statement (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.8).

102. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Paraguay (on behalf of the States members of MERCOSUR as well as Bolivia and Chile), Brazil, Uruguay, Panama, China, the Russian Federation, Venezuela, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ethiopia, Bolivia and Grenada (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.8).

103. A statement in explanation of position was made by the representative of Antigua and Barbuda (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.8).

104. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2001/L.8 without a vote (A/AC.109/2001/25).

105. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Sierra Leone (see A/AC.109/2001/SR.8).

106. The delegation of the United Kingdom, the administering Power concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item.

107. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2001/25, adopted by the Special Committee at its 8th meeting, on 29 June 2001, is reproduced below:

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Aware that the maintenance of colonial situations is incompatible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 31/49 of 1 December 1976, 37/9 of 4 November 1982, 38/12 of 16 November 1983, 39/6 of 1 November 1984, 40/21 of 27 November 1985, 41/40 of 25 November 1986, 42/19 of 17 November 1987 and 43/25 of 17 November 1988, Special Committee resolutions A/AC.109/756 of 1 September 1983, A/AC.109/793 of 21 August 1984, A/AC.109/842 of 9 August 1985, A/AC.109/885 of 14 August 1986, A/AC.109/930 of 14 August 1987, A/AC.109/972 of 11 August 1988, A/AC.109/1008 of 15 August 1989, A/AC.109/1050 of 14 August 1990, A/AC.109/1087 of 14 August 1991, A/AC.109/1132 of 29 July 1992, A/AC.109/1169 of 14 July 1993, A/AC.109/2003 of 12 July 1994, A/AC.109/2033 of 13 July 1995, A/AC.109/2062 of 22 July 1996, A/AC.109/2096 of 16 June 1997, A/AC.109/2122 of 6 July 1998, A/AC.109/1999/23 of 1 July 1999 and A/AC.109/2000/23 of 11 July 2000 and Security Council resolutions 502 (1982) of 3 April 1982 and 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982,

Distressed that, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX), this prolonged dispute has not yet been settled,

Aware of the interest of the international community in the resumption by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of their negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Expressing its preoccupation over the fact that the good level of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom has not yet led to negotiations on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Considering that this situation should facilitate the resumption of the negotiations in order to find a peaceful solution to the dispute over sovereignty,

Reaffirming the principles of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and the peaceful settlement of international disputes,

Calling attention to the importance of the Secretary-General continuing his efforts to give full effect to the mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly in the resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Reaffirming the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the islands in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

1. *Reiterates* that the way to put an end to the special and particular colonial situation in the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) is the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

2. *Takes note* of the views expressed by the President of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the United Nations Millennium Assembly and by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Regrets* that, in spite of the widespread international support for a negotiation between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom

that includes all aspects of the future of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions on this question has not yet started;

4. *Requests* the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the current process of dialogue and cooperation through the resumption of negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25;

5. *Reiterates its firm support* for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in order to assist the parties in complying with the request made by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas);

6. *Decides* to keep under review the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) subject to the directives that the General Assembly has issued and may issue in that regard.

Notes

[1] See A/AC.109/2009.

[2] For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86, A/42/651, annex, and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.